

(By J. W. T. Massie, Former European Manager of the United Press.)

New York, April 9.—British labor has been quick to see the serious possibilities to itself contained in the charge that drunkenness and the refusal to speed up in work is delaying the delivery of war supplies.

British unionism is, in fact, endangered as the development of new public opinion hostile to the rights of labor would be made probable by a repetition of the accusations of Lord George and Lord Kitchener. The independent labor party has therefore protested against the government's attitude toward the workers.

England is always most severe in commenting on the reasons for defeat. Under the present circumstances, it is inevitable that the working men are

destined to bear the brunt of the criticism. Probably one of the safest predictions that could be made is that an inconclusive peace will be followed by England by a reaction against the recent pro-labor legislation. The workers vaguely sense this possible threat against their interests.

Kitchener's demand for greater production of ammunition can be met only within certain limits by the British working men. The low standard of living for generations has weakened the physical stamina of English workers.

The incompetence of British employers will not receive the blame in case of an inconclusive peace, nor will the fault be attributed to the low standard of living of the working men. It will be easier to throw the responsibility upon drink and the trade union rules, limiting the output of labor.